

IN THE CLAIMS

A complete listing of the pending claims follows:

1. (canceled)

2. (currently amended) A method for emulating an erasable storage medium using a non-erasable optical disk, wherein the optical disk includes a writing area formed in a spiral track, the method comprising:

writing a plurality of data files in the writing area, wherein a first data file is written from a first end of the spiral track, a second data file is written from the end of the first data file on the spiral track, and so on for remaining data files;

generating a system sector for the data files, wherein the system sector identifies, for each data file, its location in the writable area and its size;

writing the system sector in the writable area, wherein the system sector is written from the remaining end of the spiral track;

generating an updated system sector whenever there is a change in the data files stored on the writable area, wherein the updated system sector identifies only, for each the changed data file, its location in the writable area and its size files, the unchanged data files being identified by the system sector; and

writing the updated system sector in the writable area, wherein the updated system sector is written from the end of the system sector on the spiral track.

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3. (previously presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein the change is an additional data file being written in the writable area, the additional data file being written from the end of the last data file on the spiral track, and wherein the updated system sector identifies the location and size of the additional data file.

4. (previously presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein the change is a modified data file being written in the writable area, the modified data file being written from the end of the last data file on the spiral track, and wherein the updated system sector identifies the location and size of the modified data file such that the modified data file replaces the contents of a given data file stored in the writable area.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the change is an indication that a given data file stored in the writable area is to be considered deleted.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the writable area is contained within an annular area of the optical disk, the annular area having an inner diameter and an outer diameter, and wherein the first end of the spiral track is adjacent the outer diameter and the remaining end of the spiral track is adjacent the inner diameter.

7. (previously presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein each system sector comprises:

a directory identification parameter that is used to determine when to terminate the

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process of reading the system sector(s).

8. (previously presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein each system sector further comprises:

a file identification parameter that is used to determine when to terminate the process of reading the system sector(s).

9. (previously presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein each system sector includes:

a data block number that indicates the next available writeable location for a data file.

Claims 10-19 (canceled)

20. (currently amended) A write-once read-many (WORM) optical disk, comprising:

a writeable area on the optical disk, wherein the writable area is formed in a spiral track, the spiral track forming a data area starting at a first end of the spiral track and extending towards the remaining end and forming a system sector starting at the remaining end and extending towards the first end, wherein the data area comprises a plurality of data files and the system sector identifies the location and size of the data files; the writable area including:

an updated system sector for accessing only updated data files, the updated system sector being written in the writable area starting from the end of the system sector towards the data area along the spiral track, the updated system sector identifying the location and size of the updated data files, the information for accessing the data files that were not updated being

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stored in the system sector.

Claims 21-23 (canceled)

24. (previously presented) The optical disk of Claim 20, wherein each system sector comprises:

a directory identification parameter that is used to determine when to terminate the process of reading each of the system sectors.

25. (previously presented) The optical disk of Claim 24, wherein each system sector comprises:

a file identification parameter that is used to determine when to terminate the process of reading each of the system sectors.

26. (previously presented) The optical disk of Claim 20, wherein each system sector includes:

a writeable data block number that indicates the next available location for a data file.

Claims 27-35 (canceled)

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